



STATE PRESERVES ADVISORY BOARD

July 8, 2005 – 8:30 AM

Lime Creek Nature Center
3501 Lime Creek Road
Mason City, Iowa

The Board will tour Claybanks Forest State Preserve on Thursday, July 7 as part of a canoe trip on the Winnebago River beginning at Averydale Access at 1PM. The public is invited to attend.

---Agenda Topics---

1	Approve Agenda	Decision
2	Approve Minutes of April Meeting	Decision
3	Election of Chair	Decision
4	Garrison Rock – The Wapello County Conservation Board has expressed interest in dedicating all or part of Garrison Rock Natural Resource Area as a possible state preserve. Located on bluffs flanking the Des Moines River east of Ottumwa, this 300-acre area was recently acquired as a woodland mitigation site by the Iowa Department of Transportation and subsequently conveyed to the County Conservation Board. It contains extensive oak forest, a small hill prairie, and a deep sandstone ravine. A tour should be scheduled for the Board to visit this property.	Information (John Pearson)
5	Steele Prairie State Preserve – NRCS soil scientist Mark Minger completed a study of sedimentation in drainageways of this prairie preserve, finding up to 2 feet of post-settlement alluvium. This points out the need for soil conservation measures on farmland upstream of the preserve. The report identifies soil conservation programs that may help resolve this problem. Bob McKay has also been exploring options.	Information (John Pearson and Bob McKay)
6	Marietta Sand Prairie Seed Harvest – The Marshall County Conservation Board requests permission to hand-harvest seed from the preserve for three years. The seed will be used on 212-acre property adjacent to the preserve that has sand prairie remnants and a fen. The County Conservation Board and the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation are in the process of fund-raising and applying for grants to purchase this property.	Decision (Daryl Howell)
7	Scenic Preserve Study – A copy of the final report (incorporating revisions requested at previous Board meetings) was included with the agenda. The Board is asked to officially adopt the report recommendations.	Decision (John Pearson)
8	Richard M. Pohl Memorial Preserve at Ames High Prairie – a) Recent entries onto this preserve have occurred by construction vehicles working at the school and by vehicles performing an emergency repair to a school sewer line. Damage was light, but plans to manage future incidents will be discussed.	Information (John Pearson, Scott Moats, and Daryl Howell)

	b) Mr. Stevan Wilson a senior at Iowa State University was given permission to live-trap small mammals on the preserve. Dr. Sue Fairbanks will advise on the project and Dr. Erv Klaas will act as a liaison between Mr. Wilson and The Nature Conservancy.	
9	Palisades-Dows Preserve – Dr. John Doershuk with the Office of the State Archaeologist was given permission to conduct an archaeological field school for Cornell College in Palisade-Dows Preserve. This is a continuation of work that Dr. Doershuk initiated with a field school for Cornell College in 2002. The field school was completed in May and a final report will be submitted detailing the results of the work in 2002 and 2005.	Information (Daryl Howell)
10	Continuing Projects – Updates on Fossil Park preserve dedication, Friends of Preserves, Iowa Conservationist articles, seed harvest policy revision, and manager workshop.	Information (John Pearson and Neil Bernstein)
11	Eureka Woods (Banister-McGregor Woods) – After extensive discussion at the April 1 meeting, the Board tabled the decision regarding dedication until the July meeting. Since then, several events have occurred: 1) three new Board members who had not seen the proposed preserve during the original 2002 tour visited the property, 2) three Board members attended an April 12 public meeting in Jefferson that addressed the selection of alternatives for County Road E53 (a map from that meeting depicting the location of five highway construction alternatives is included in the agenda package as well as a map showing Alternatives Q and R relative to the proposed preserve), 3) the preserve proposal has been modified by landowner Bill McGregor to drop Parcels B and C, leaving only the 90-acre Parcel A (for reference, the original map showing locations of Parcels A, B, and C is included with the package), and 4) the Greene County Engineer has expressed interest in designating the Eureka Bridge and associated roadway as a historical state preserve (map included with package).	Decision (John Pearson)
12	Rock Island Preserve Addition – The Linn County Conservation Board has updated the nomination and management plan for the proposed 100 acre addition to Rock Island State Preserve. The completion of a vascular plant inventory of the proposed addition and the Blanding's turtle study conducted by the Iowa Department of Transportation necessitated the update. The Conservation Board requests that the Preserves Advisory Board take action on the proposal.	Decision (Linn County Conservation Board)
13	Open Discussion	Information (Chair)
14	October Meeting – Dixon	Information (Chair)